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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIVISION

WEEKLY SUMMARY NO. 3

For week ending 24 January 1950

Volume III

The International Week

The Soviet bloc continued to boycott all UN meetings. Meanwhile, further progress was recorded toward an Italo-Ethiopian settlement and preparation of the Somaliland trusteeship agreement approached completion. Franco-German differences over the Saar complicated the incorporation of the West German Republic into the Council of Europe. On the international labor front, Communist organizations expanded their drive for anti-MDAP port strikes.

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Further progress toward Italo-Ethiopian settlement. Recent conversations in London and Geneva have laid the foundation for an over-all settlement between Italy and Ethiopia based on Italian willingness to recognize the latter's interests in Eritrea. Subject to final Italian approval, the British propose sending a note to Ethiopia: (1) expressing Italy's desire to reach a general agreement; (2) recognizing Ethiopia's racial and economic interests in Eritrea and (3) limiting Italy's concern to the protection of the legitimate rights and interests of residents of the territory. The Ethiopians themselves stress the necessity for Italian renunciation, though not necessarily public at this time, of all aspirations in Eritrea beyond those indicated above. Tension has also been reduced by UK acceptance of Ethiopia's request for British withdrawal from the disputed Somaliland Ogaden area and by provisional Italian acceptance of the 1908 frontier.

Thus, a more cordial atmosphere has been achieved, assisted by US and UK emphasis on the importance of Eritrea in any over-all settlement. Neither party could reach a public agreement at this time on this larger issue, but the object of present discussions is to arrive at a solution, linked to the findings of the UN Commission of Inquiry, which both may accept at the 5th General Assembly. The outlines of that solution may be found in the earlier US proposal for a federation of most of Eritrea under the Ethiopian Emperor, and Italy's reported willingness to abstain from activity in favor of Eritrean independence. While much remains for future discussion, progress to date renders more likely an East African settlement favorable to US interests.

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Italy's role in Somaliland restricted by TC. The draft agreement for former Italian Somaliland, now under consideration by the Trusteeship Council, differs widely from other standard trusteeship agreements. It is far more restrictive in character, notably in the role of the Advisory Council and in the inclusion of an annex of constitutional principles providing for the "establishment of institutions to prepare the way for complete self-government." Among its unique provisions are: (1) independence is guaranteed, ten years after GA approval of the agreement; (2) sovereignty is specifically vested in the people of the territory; (3) a three-nation Advisory Council is to advise and assist the Administering Authority and may report to the TC; (4) military installations, permissive under all trusteeship agreements, can be established only after consulting the Advisory Council; (5) the Administrator is to appoint a territorial council of local representatives which he must consult in all matters except defense and foreign affairs until an elective legislature is established; (6) land and other resources may not be acquired by non-indigenous inhabitants, except by lease, without consent of the territorial council and (7) there are provisions for a "Bill of Rights" and a system of public education. Despite these innovations, the drafting committee (in whose work Italy actively and usefully participated) reached agreement quickly and with a minimum of fuss, setting a record which will apparently be surpassed by the TC itself.

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The bitter tea of Ambassador Tsiang. Nationalist China's UN delegate Tsiang has strong personal as well as political incentives to delay his ouster from the SC as long as possible. Tsiang probably fears that voiding of his credentials will in fairly short order end the diplomatic immunity which he reportedly invoked to protect him from a raging sea of matrimonial troubles. Tingfu Tsiang, aged about 55, originally came to the UN with a well worn battle-axe of about the same age and ripeness. Thereafter, Tingfu's still roving optic slanted upon a young and beautiful cherry blossom from Cathay whom he brought to this country by getting her a job in the Chinese UN delegation. Once y.c.b. was here, Tingfu determined to rid himself of his time-honored eye-sore. To this end he procured a Mexican Sears-Roebuck divorce resplendent with seals and ribbons, though of dubious legal validity, and thereupon lost no time in marrying the girl of his most recent choice. But the diplomatic list now revealed that Tsiang had excess baggage (two wives) which immediately gave rise to new recognition problems. An eagle-eyed US official almost fell into the trap of deporting the first Mrs. Tsiang until

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fortunately stopped by the powers of righteousness.— Since then, No. 1 attempted to sue Tsiang for withheld support only to be dismissed because of her spouse's diplomatic immunity. But she is only waiting for the day when Tingfu at last gets the UN's heave ho and is stripped of his immunity. Then she is reported as ready to travel to the ends of the earth to catch the recreant Tingfu and bring him to justice.

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Repeal of UN ban on Spain. The next UN General Assembly will undoubtedly rescind the 1946 recommendation that member states withdraw their ambassadors and ministers from Madrid. Anti-Franco sentiment in the UN has been softening ever since 1947 under the impact of the intensified East-West struggle and increasing world awareness of the dangers of Soviet Communism. Although Argentina was the only UN member which initially ignored the GA resolution, the number of states refusing to abide by the UN recommendation has been mounting. And now the recent US policy statement on Spain will swing enough votes to muster the two-thirds majority necessary to repeal the 1946 GA recommendation.

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Communist labor expands drive for anti-MDAP port strikes.

The rapid extension of Communist efforts to persuade Western European dockers and seamen to refuse to unload MDAP arms shipments indicates Communist determination to implement as widely as possible Kremlin orders to disrupt the movement of US military aid. These orders, transmitted through the WFTU, the "Peace Partisan" organizations and key Communist Party officials, apparently envisage: (1) immediate adoption by Communist worker cells in French, Belgian and Dutch ports of resolutions "not to unload American arms;" (2) similar action in Italian ports timed to coincide with the arrival of MDAP shipments and (3) possible strikes in other industries. To finance this drive the Kremlin has reportedly made available to the WFTU Maritime and Dockers International a very large "solidarity" fund. Meanwhile, the resistance of anti-Communist dockers to these tactics has been strengthened by resort wherever possible to secret ballots. By this method Force Ouvriere leaders have already induced merchant seamen in Marseilles, Havre and Cherbourg to refuse to engage in "political strikes." Their resistance is likely to be further strengthened as a result of the anti-Communist International

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Transport Workers Federation (ITF) meeting this week in London. The ITF, which last fall ordered the organization of local dockers committees throughout Western Europe, is understood to be working closely with the Force Ouvriere seamen and dockers unions and also with the similar committees recently formed by non-Communist Italian dockers. Although some of these local committees (particularly those in Northern Italy) are still in the organization stage, they are making rapid headway and, if adequately supported, should prove an important aid to MDAP objectives in this area.

O/IN NOTES

UN cautious on admitting members in Soviet absence. UN circles have reacted cautiously to a possible membership application by the United States of Indonesia during the Soviet boycott of the SC. Some delegations believe that the SC must insist on its right to act in the absence of a permanent member. However, the likelihood that the USSR would not recognize the legality of Indonesia's admission and would therefore prolong its present non-participation has dampened original enthusiasm for action now. In addition, it would be difficult to admit Indonesia while not taking similar action on other long-pending applications, and the UK has already indicated its desire to give first priority to prior applicants, especially Ceylon. In any case, without full support from the US and other delegations, the USI will probably not press its application at this time.

UNCOK in jeopardy. Effective functioning of the UN Commission for Korea has been impossible since October 1949 when the GA recommended its continuance. Four representatives of the seven-man team still remain absent from Seoul, and Australia has now threatened to withdraw its representative unless UNCOK is operating at full strength by the end of January.

Soviet control of satellite UN delegations. The complete Soviet control exercised over satellite UN delegations has been confirmed by Rudzinski, the defected counselor of the Polish delegation. He indicated that Soviet control became increasingly rigid following the Tito break. On minor matters the Russian

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delegate issued instructions directly to the Polish representative involved, but on major issues the instructions were sent by the chief USSR delegate to the head of the Polish delegation.

Communist Youth International expels Yugoslav organization.
Yugoslav participation in international Communist organizations, already sharply reduced by practical expulsion from the WFTU, the World Committee of Peace Partisans and the Women's International, will be virtually eliminated by the anticipated ejection of the Yugoslav Popular Union of Youth from the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY). The WFDY Executive Committee has bitterly denounced the "fascist" and separatist policies of the Yugoslav group, which is also charged with engaging in espionage activities for the Tito government. In response, the Yugoslavs have denounced Soviet domination of the WFDY and pointed out that this domination is fast transforming it into a docile instrument of the USSR.

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